Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

Report submitted by Luxembourg

Introduction

Luxembourg considers the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to be the main instrument of the international non-proliferation regime and calls for its full and effective implementation. The NPT is founded on three pillars: non-proliferation, disarmament and peaceful uses. It plays a vital role in the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security.

Article I

Nuclear weapons States have the obligation to deny any transfer of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices to States or non-state actors that may seek to acquire such weapons or devices. An effective implementation of Article I by nuclear weapon States is therefore essential to prevent further proliferation of nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices.

Article II

Luxembourg is dedicated to the principles of Article II and reaffirms its position that non-nuclear weapon States shall not seek to acquire nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. Luxembourg remains also committed to its obligations under the Nuclear Suppliers Group and the Zangger Committee.

Luxembourg's full endorsement of the IAEA Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources was announced in the Luxembourg Minister of Foreign Affairs' letter to the Director General of IAEA in March 2004. Luxembourg also supports the amendment to the

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Convention on Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and is one of the first States to have sent, in April 2004, its written support to the Austrian Government's initiative.

Article III

Luxembourg remains committed to the fact that the IAEA's international Safeguards System is an essential part of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime. Furthermore, for Luxembourg, the Additional Protocol is an essential and integral part of the IAEA Safeguards System and its universal adoption and implementation should be strongly promoted. Through the "Loi du 1er août 2001 portant approbation d'un Protocole additionnel sur le renforcement de la non-prolifération des armes nucléaires destine à détecter les activités nucléaires clandestines", Luxembourg ratified an Additional Protocol and supports the Additional Protocol becoming a condition of supply for nuclear exports under the framework of the Nuclear Suppliers Group.

Article IV

Luxembourg believes that the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices should not hamper the inalienable right of all Parties to the Treaty to benefit, if they so wish, from the peaceful use of nuclear energy in complete conformity with Art. I and II of the Treaty. However, any possible misuse of a civilian program must be strictly excluded. Effective IAEA verification standards are of utmost importance.

Article V

Through the "Loi du 11 mars 1999 portant approbation du Traité d'interdiction complète des essais nucléaires, signé à New York, le 24 septembre 1996", Luxembourg ratified the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and attaches great importance to the CTBT's entry into force at the earliest possible date.

Article VI

Luxembourg remains fully committed to the effective implementation of Art. VI of the NPT and fully supports the conclusions contained in the Final Document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference and to the Decisions and Resolution of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference.

In the framework of general and complete disarmament, Luxembourg is a State Party to the Chemical Weapons Convention, the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention, the International Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation, the Ottawa Convention, the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and its amended Protocol II, the Treaty on Conventional Forces in Europe. Luxembourg also provides financial support to mine clearance and related activities, as well as to small arms and light weapons disarmament in Asia, Europe, Latin America and Africa.

Article VII

While itself not being a member of a nuclear-weapons-free zone, Luxembourg welcomes and encourages the concept of nuclear-weapons-free zones established on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, as they strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime and contribute to enhancing global and regional peace and security.

Article VIII

The 1995 Review and Extension Conference's final decisions included a commitment to a Strengthened Treaty Review Process. Luxembourg attaches great importance to enhancing the performance and effectiveness of the Treaty.

Article IX

Luxembourg deplores the announcement of the DPRK in January 2003 of its intention to withdraw from the NPT and continues to urge the DPRK to return to full compliance with its international non-proliferation obligations under the NPT.

In accordance with the European Union's Common Position on the universalisation and reinforcement of multilateral agreements in the field of non proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, adopted in November 2003, Luxembourg will notably work towards universalisation of the NPT.